

Guidance for Managed Care Organizations: Qualified Rehabilitation Professional (QRP)

Custom Wheeled Mobility Systems

A wheeled mobility system is a manual or power wheelchair, or scooter that is a customized power or manual mobility device, or a feature or component of the mobility device, including but not limited to, the following:

- Seated positioning components
- Powered or manual seating options
- Specialty driving controls for powered chairs
- Adjustable frame
- Other complex or specialized components

QRP Provider Qualifications

Providers that render custom durable medical equipment (DME) wheeled mobility systems to Texas Medicaid clients must enroll in Texas Medicaid as a specialized/custom wheeled mobility provider group and must have at least one qualified rehabilitation professional (QRP) performing provider.

In addition, a QRP must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Holds a certification as an Assistive Technology Professional (ATP) or a Rehabilitation Engineering Technologist (RET) issued by, and in good standing with, the Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America (RESNA)
- Holds a certification as a Seating and Mobility Specialist (SMS) issued by, and in good standing with, RESNA
- Holds a certification as a Certified Rehabilitation Technology Supplier (CRTS) issued by, and in good standing with, the National Registry of Rehabilitation Technology Suppliers (NRRTS)

QRP Responsibilities

The QRP is responsible for the seating assessment for manual and power custom wheelchairs. The QRP must fulfill the following requirements:

- Be present at and involved in any and all seating assessments of the client for the rental or purchase of a wheeled mobility system
- Be present at the time of delivery of the wheeled mobility system to direct the fitting of the system to ensure that the system functions correctly relative to the client
- Be directly employed by or contracted with the DME company providing the system
- The same QRP must participate in both the seating assessment, fitting, and major modification

Fitting

A fitting is required for any device meeting the definition of a wheeled mobility system. The fitting of a wheeled mobility system is defined as the time the QRP spends with the client fitting

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the various systems and components of the system to the client. It may also include time spent training the client or caregiver in the use of the wheeled mobility system.

The fitting of a wheeled mobility system must be:

- Performed by the same QRP that was present for, and participated in, the seating assessment of the client
- Completed prior to submitting a claim for reimbursement of a wheeled mobility system

The QRP performing the fitting will:

- Verify the wheeled mobility system has been properly fitted to the client
- Verify the wheeled mobility system will meet the client's functional needs for seating, positioning, and mobility
- Verify the client, parent, guardian of the client, and/or caregiver of the client has received training and instruction regarding the wheeled mobility system's proper use and maintenance

Billing

Under managed care, the DME provider must include the QRP specialty as the performing provider on the claim for all components of the wheeled mobility system, including the QRP's participation in the seating assessment.

On the Medicaid fee schedule, QRP services are listed as procedure code 97542. Assessment and fitting services are billed separately in 15-minute increments under fee-for-service.ⁱ

All adjustments and modifications to the wheeled mobility system, as well as the associated services by the QRP for the seating assessment and fitting, within the first six months after delivery are considered part of the purchase price and should not be separately reimbursed.

Accessories, Modifications, Adjustments, and Repairs

Mobility aids that have been purchased are anticipated to last a minimum of five years. Accessories, modifications, adjustments, and repairs are benefits of Texas Medicaid as outlined below:

- All modifications, adjustments, repairs, and associated QRP services within the first six months after delivery are considered part of the purchase price
- A major modificationⁱⁱ requires a new seating assessment and is eligible for reimbursement

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A wheeled mobility system that has been fitted and delivered to the client's home by a QRP and then found to be inappropriate for the client's condition will not be eligible for an upgrade, replacement, or major modification within the first six months following purchase unless there has been a significant change in the client's condition. The significant change in the client's condition must be documented by a physician enrolled in Texas Medicaid and familiar with the client. Equipment replacement is considered within five years of equipment purchase when one of the following occurs:

- There has been a significant change in the client's condition such that the current equipment no longer meets the client's needs.
- The equipment is no longer functional and either cannot be repaired or it is not cost-effective to repair.

Forms

MCOs must ensure that all components of the assessment and fitting outlined above have been satisfied by the QRP. MCOs should require that the QRP attest to completion of required services and may choose to utilize the same forms as TMHP, attached:

Wheelchair/Scooter/Stroller Seating Assessment Form (Attachment 1); DME Certification and Receipt form (Attachment 2).

ⁱ In fee-for-service Medicaid, QRP is reimbursed in 15-minute increments, for a period of up to 2 hours (8 unites), for the fitting of any manual or power wheeled mobility system. Up to one additional hour (4 units) may be reimbursed to the QRP with documentation of medical necessity demonstrating that fitting of three or more major systems is required, or that additional client training is required for such systems. MCOs may, but are not required, to adopt these guidelines. Major systems can include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Complete complex seating system (planar system with trunk supports and hip supports or abductor or custom contoured seating system such as a molded system) Off-the-shelf seat and back cushions do not constitute a complex seating system.
- Alternative drive controls (such as a head array, mini-proportional system, etc.).
- Additional specialty control features (such as infrared access).
- Power positioning features (such as power tilt, power recline).
- Specific purpose specialty features (such as power seat elevation systems, power elevating leg rests).

ⁱⁱ Major modification is defined in Section 2.6.10.1.2 Wheeled Mobility Systems in the Children's Services Handbook